

# CARL SCHURZ TO LYMAN J. GAGE.

## The Second Letter in a Very Interesting Controversy.

### FREE SILVER NOT THE ISSUE.

Responsibility for the Defects in the Financial Policy of the Government—The Case of Gage vs. Gage—The Financial and the Partisan—Congress Not to be Feared—Mr. Schurz Refuses to be Terrorized by Mr. Gage's Threats of Business Disaster.

New York, Sept. 12.—Hon. Carl Schurz has written the following open letter to Hon. Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury:

Sir—The object of my open letter of September 1 was, by offering a means of escape from the dangers pointed out by you, to call public attention to the fact that the present campaign is by no means a repetition of that of 1896, and that the money question now has no right to stand in the way of a fair consideration of other important questions on their own merits. I thank you for the courtesy of your answer, but I must regret that, instead of favorably receiving my well-meant suggestion, it only shows to what lengths party zeal will go in the attempt to frighten the people into the belief that only Mr. McKinley's re-election can save them from general ruin, and that no objection to him in any other respect must have any weight with them.

To help on the alarm, you quote from a speech made by me in 1896, showing what disastrous consequences I predicted would be brought on by the election of Mr. Bryan. I believed at the time, and I believe now, that these consequences would have followed had Mr. Bryan been elected then, after a campaign turning wholly upon the financial issue, with no existing law seriously to hamper him, and with majorities in both Houses of Congress prospectively in his favor. But circumstances have essentially changed, and that there is an immense difference between a President so elected and free to act and a President elected after a campaign run on other issues, with very different majorities in Congress, and bound hand and foot by a law such as now exists, or as you and your friends in power may still make it. Is it quite ingenuous, is it not doing violence to truth, to quote words uttered under one set of circumstances as applicable to a set of circumstances so essentially different?

### RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LAW'S DEFECTS.

To my suggestion that, if the present law is defective, the Republican Congress and Administration would before the inauguration of the next President have ample power and opportunity to prevent the Executive action, with its disastrous consequences, which you so furiously depict, you object that Congress would "probably" find it difficult to use that power owing to possible obstructive tactics of the minority. Whatever those who insist upon the necessity of Mr. McKinley's re-election for the preservation of the gold standard may say, my parliamentary experience teaches me that if you, as Secretary of the Treasury, prepare a simple measure of legislation and have it introduced in Congress on the first day of the session, and the majority presses it with a sincere determination to use all legitimate means to overcome obstructive tactics, the three months of the session will be more than sufficient to put through such a bill.

There will be no trouble about this if the Republican majority is willing to do it. Or do you suspect that it might not be willing, even if such action appeared necessary, to save the gold standard? If so, will you, as Secretary of the Treasury, be saying to the American people substantially this: "We are the men to maintain the gold standard. Therefore, you must keep us in office and permit us to do whatever else we please, however obnoxious it may be to you. For if you vote us out, you shall let the gold standard go to perdition even while able to save it. We have you by the throat and mean to hold you so." If this be really the spirit of the Republicans in power the people will soon conclude that they are a public danger and a nuisance and ought to be got rid of at any cost. You certainly cannot wish your party to stand in such a light.

I repeat, therefore, that the Republican majority in Congress not only can, but, if only for its own moral salvation, will do this thing in case of necessity, and you, Mr. Secretary, then relieved of your partisan campaign stress, will, as a good citizen, be one of the first to urge it to be done, if you sincerely think the currency law to be as defective as in your recent threat of disaster you represent it to be.

But do you really think that it is so defective and that the dangers you predicted owing to that defectiveness really threaten? In your letter you say that since I had accepted "my opponent's" statement, "there is no particular difference between us as to what Mr. Bryan, as President, could do under the law or in spite of the law as it now is." You must pardon me for observing, Mr. Secretary, that when you, Lyman J. Gage, say that I agree with you on those points, you strain the truth rather violently. Accepting a statement "for argument's sake" means that we admit it only as a basis for reasoning, while you really hold an entirely opposite opinion. And in this case I have indeed, strong authorities for differing from you, and, curiously enough, among these authorities you, Mr. Secretary, occupy a very prominent place.

### CASE OF GAGE VS. GAGE.

About July 15 you gave out an interview on the identical points here in question, which has recently been republished, and which stands in strange contrast to the alarm blast sounded a month later. It is worth while to place the two utterances side by side:

Mr. Gage, August 25. [Mr. Gage] July 15. "There is no I am satisfied doubt that Mr. Bryan could order the gold his Secretary of standard beyond the Treasury to assault, unless it is make payment indeliberately violate of a gold standard."

For all current disbursements of the government, as well, which amount to from \$1,500,000 to \$1,750,000 a day. That he would give such an order, too, is very certain, if he is in the same mind that he was in 1896. He would have great difficulty in doing so, but at once, the Treasury of the government at present is very firmly established on a gold standard. Including the reserve of \$100,000,000 held against the legal tender notes, the government owns and controls over \$200,000,000 in gold coin and bullion, while it owns and controls only about \$16,000,000 in silver. The rest of the silver being out in circulation among the people, either in the form of silver certificates or silver coin.

"But the announcement by the Treasury Department of its purpose to pay out a settlement of all interest on the public debt not specifically payable in gold, and to make its daily disbursements to its creditors in silver, when, as I have shown, all money of the United States is convertible into gold. These are the distinct provisions of the law, and they cannot fail to maintain the gold standard except by the deliberate violation of the duty imposed by the law upon the Secretary of the Treasury. In the event of Mr. Bryan's election, I think the gold standard would be resolutely maintained so long as the law remained on the statute-book."

"The government would then be established on a silver basis, would it not?"

"That would not be accomplished, and the government would properly speaking, would be on a silver basis."

"How would this affect the credit of the government?"

"Most disastrously. I have no doubt."

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"Dear Sir—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

"Dear Sir—Yours was received and I have no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

"Dear Sir—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the result has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy, and you cannot realize how happy I am."

### THE FINANCIER AND THE PARTISAN.

You concluded the interview of July 15 by saying that the law might, indeed, be subjected "to a severe strain" from the November day that Mr. Bryan's election was made known, until the Treasury was turned over to him on March 4, and that the present Administration would probably have to "use to the uttermost the powers conferred by the new law to maintain the gold standard," owing to possible apprehensions that might be created among the business community, which, however, does not impugn your previous statements as to the safety of the gold standard under the law as it stands.

This is Mr. Gage who brings against himself the charge of spreading "false alarms." In the one column we hear you as the financier and the conscientious public officer who feels it to be his duty not to excite, but to allay the fears of the people. In the other, Mr. Secretary, that there are such questions with regard to which many American citizens have very strong convictions of duty.

Very respectfully yours,

CARL SCHURZ.

Bolton Landing, Lake George, N. Y., September 10.

CRAMPS, DYSENTERY, CHOLERA MORBUS, diarrhoea, and, indeed, all bowel complaints quickly relieved by PERRY DAVIS' PAIN-KILLER, a safe, sure and speedy cure, for all the troubles named. Every reputable druggist keeps a supply. Each bottle has full directions. Ask your druggist for the trouble named. Perry Davis, 25c. and 50c.

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Pecora, Excelsior, Columbia, Mortar Stains in Standard Colors.

### TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

#### "THE NEW LINE."

#### Norfolk and Atlantic Terminal COMPANY.

The following schedule, effective 7:45 A. M., SEPTEMBER 13th, 1900. Close connections made with the Norfolk and Electric trains for Phoebus, Hampton, and Newport News.

Norfolk	Old Pt.	Norfolk	Old Pt.
7:30 a. m.	8:30 a. m.	7:30 a. m.	8:30 a. m.
9:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m.	9:00 a. m.	10:00 a. m.
10:30 a. m.	11:30 a. m.	10:30 a. m.	11:30 a. m.
12:00 p. m.	1:00 p. m.	12:00 p. m.	1:00 p. m.
1:30 p. m.	2:30 p. m.	1:30 p. m.	2:30 p. m.
3:00 p. m.	4:00 p. m.	3:00 p. m.	4:00 p. m.
4:30 p. m.	5:30 p. m.	4:30 p. m.	5:30 p. m.
6:00 p. m.	7:00 p. m.	6:00 p. m.	7:00 p. m.
7:30 p. m.	8:30 p. m.	7:30 p. m.	8:30 p. m.
9:00 p. m.	10:00 p. m.	9:00 p. m.	10:00 p. m.

"Daily except Sunday. Local cars for Lambert's Point and Tanner's Creek will leave Norfolk at 6:30 a. m., 7:30 a. m., 8:30 a. m. and every 20 minutes thereafter until 11:30 p. m. Local cars will leave Tanner's Creek for Norfolk at 7:00 a. m., 8:00 a. m., 9:00 a. m. and every half-hour thereafter until 8:00 p. m. Schedule subject to change without notice. Baggage checked from Old Point Pier to any point in the city. L. D. MATHES, General Superintendent.

### Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co.

The new and powerful from palace steamers "NEWPORT NEWS," "WASHINGTON" and "NORFOLK," will leave daily as follows:

#### NORTH-BOUND.

Leave Portsmouth, N. & W.	5:00 p. m.
Leave Norfolk, N. & W.	6:00 p. m.
Leave Old Point Comfort	7:00 p. m.
Leave Washington, B. & O.	8:30 a. m.
Leave Washington, Penn. R.	7:20 a. m.
Arrive in Philadelphia, Penn.	10:15 a. m.
Arrive in New York, Penn.	11:15 a. m.
Arrive in New York, Penn.	11:15 a. m.
Arrive in New York, Penn.	11:15 a. m.

#### SOUTH-BOUND.

Leave New York, Penn. R.	12:55 p. m.
Leave New York, B. & O.	1:00 p. m.
Leave Philadelphia, Penn. R.	3:12 p. m.
Leave Philadelphia, B. & O.	3:07 p. m.
Arrive in Washington, Penn. R.	6:10 p. m.
Arrive in Washington, B. & O.	6:00 p. m.
Leave Washington, B. & O.	6:30 p. m.
Arrive Old Point Comfort	7:00 a. m.
Arrive in Norfolk	8:00 a. m.
Arrive in Portsmouth	8:30 a. m.

#### SUNDAYS.

Leave New York, B. & O.	11:30 a. m.
Arrive in Washington, B. & O.	4:30 p. m.

"Daily, except Sunday. Ticket office, N. & C. office, at W. T. Walker's and company's office on wharf. For further information apply to J. C. CALLAHAN, Telephone 441.

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For further information apply to R. H. WRIGHT, Agent, Norfolk, Va. A. D. STEPHENS, Asst. Traffic Mgr., 100 Water St., Boston, Mass. J. C. WHITEHEAD, Gen. Pass. Agent, J. C. WHITEHEAD, General Offices, Baltimore, Md.

### NEW JAMES RIVER LINE.

For Richmond and James River Landings the steamer Dumont leaves Roanoke MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY at 7 A. M. for Richmond, Newport News and James River Landings. Fare to Richmond, \$1.00 straight; \$2.00 round trip. Daily sailing staterooms can be secured the evening before. First-class meals served on board.

Old phone 608. F. V. ARCHER, General Manager, aulis-

one, refuse to be so terrorized, I am certainly as anxious to maintain the gold standard as you are. I say this as one who, during more than a quarter of a century, has made the advocacy of a sound monetary system one of the principal parts of his public activity; who looks back upon that feature of his work with especial satisfaction, and who, if he has somewhat, however little, contributed to the accomplishment of good results, would not lightly expose those results to jeopardy. But I am convinced that the battle for sound money is substantially won, and that whatever apparent danger to the gold standard may still arise, it must and can be overcome without the people subjecting themselves to a moral thralldom keeping them from independent and conscientious action upon other public questions of equal, and even superior, importance. And I may assure you, Mr. Secretary, that there are such questions with regard to which many American citizens have very strong convictions of duty.

Very respectfully yours,

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Leave Norfolk	Arrive Norfolk	Leave Norfolk	Arrive Norfolk
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